

ELIZABETH GNASH.

JANUARY 12, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

---

Mr. BAKER, of Kansas, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 3035.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 3035) granting a pension to Elizabeth Gnash, having carefully considered the facts presented, respectfully report:

The records of the War Department show that Thomas Gnash, husband of the claimant, enlisted in Company G, Third Iowa Cavalry, and served from December 31, 1863, to August 9, 1865, when honorably discharged. He filed and established a claim under the general law for chronic diarrhea and rheumatism. At his last examination, made by the board at Bloomfield, Iowa, May 17, 1893, he was rated twelve-eighteenths for chronic diarrhea and eight-eighteenths for rheumatism and results, and on the certificate of that examination his pension was increased to \$17 for chronic diarrhea and resulting disease of rectum, and rheumatism and resulting disease of heart. This pension he continued to draw until March 10, 1895, when he died. The widow's claim for pension under the general law was rejected January 10, 1896, on the ground that soldier's death resulted from acute pneumonia, not a pathological result of the disability for which he was pensioned. The testimony of Drs. J. W. Young and G. W. Gilfillan, who were the attending physicians during soldier's last illness, shows that soldier's death resulted from pneumonia, complicated with disease of heart, for which he was pensioned. Both physicians unite in the statement that, in their opinion, soldier would have recovered from his pneumonia had it not been for his disease of heart.

Disease of the heart, as shown by the evidence, was a factor in causing the soldier's death, and therefore death was proximately, if not immediately, caused by soldier's service, and the committee therefore recommend the passage of the bill without amendment.

○